Arming of LTTE by International Agencies

4376. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some international agencies were arming LTTE;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to check such activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) There are reports of the LTTE getting arms from foreign sources.

(c) Government takes such action as it can to prevent arms reaching the LTTE.

Possession of Missiles by Tamil Tigers

4377. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the 'Times of India' (New Delhi) dated the 4th August, 1988 under the caption "Missiles recovery worries IPKF" according to which Tamil Tigers are in possession of surface to air missiles; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to strengthen IPKF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Government have seen the news item.

(b) Necessary precautions and counter-measures have been taken by the IPKF.

Return of waste fuel Rods

4378. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item that appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 3rd August, 1988 under the caption 'Misgivings over Soviet N-Offer' wherein it has been stated that waste fuel rods will have to be returned to Soviet Union whereas in an agreement with us, India did not do so in the case of rods at Tarapur plant; and

(b) if so, the reasons for giving such unfavourable terms to Soviet Union ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The terms and conditions of an intergovernmental agreement on setting up of two units of pressurised light water reactors with Soviet assistance including the question of storage or return of spent fuel rods, are under the consideration of the Government of India.

Rising Debt Liability of Public Sector Defence Units

4379. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU ; Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that debt liability of eight public sector' defence units has been rising ;